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FROM:	Tim W. Curington		
PHONE NO.	281-440-1751		
RE:	Interview Summary		
	Application No. 09/834,701 (Art Unit 2172)		
	Filed: April 12, 2001		
	Inventor: Ren		
	Examiner: Truong		

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Signed


Tim W. Curington**Identification of Submitted Papers:**

Attachments (3 pages);

Pages 1-3: Summary of Interview Dated Friday, Nov. 5, 2004

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PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: REN ET AL.

Confirmation No.: 5019

Serial No.: 09/834,701

Group Art Unit: 2172

Filed: April 12, 2001

Examiner: TRUONG, CAM Y T

Attorney Docket: REN,01B

For: ADVANCED METHOD AND SYSTEM
OF AUTOMATIC POPULATION AND
MAINTENANCE OF A WEB-BASED
DATABASE

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
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Tim W. Curington

**SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW
DATED FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2004**

Dear Sir:

On Friday, November 5, 2004, a telephone interview was conducted regarding the above referenced patent application number 09/834,701. The participants in the telephone interview were Examiner Cam Y Truong, Attorney Tim W. Curington and Applicant Tom Ren.

The subject matter of the interview was a discussion regarding the final rejection of the above-referenced application in view of two (2) primary references: USPN 6,144,959 (Anderson et al)

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and USPN 6,269,369 (Robertson). Anderson discloses a system for managing user accounts and Robertson discloses a Personal Contact Manager.

Applicant put forth the following argument:

"Applicant respectfully disagrees with the interpretation of Robertson when viewed in light Applicant's invention. As has been discussed, Applicant's invention automatically populates a web-based database with records from an existing database such as a customer list. The claims, when read in light of the specification, reasonably apprise those skilled in the art that the "web-based database" is populated with records from an existing database (such as a customer list) *automatically and without registration* by the individual customers. In other words, the web-based database is a "passive" system in that the individuals do not have to register with the web-based database and are generally unaware of the automatic population of their records until receipt of the automatically transmitted access account.

Robertson, by contrast, describes a personal contact system designed for the purpose of "creating links between *members (registered individuals)* over a network and providing information to each *member* based on levels of permission maintained by the other *members* to which they are linked." [col. 1, lines 7-10]. The personal contact system "is based on a relational database scalable to millions of users that resides on a server computer." [col. 2, lines 51-52]. The relational "database 340 contains contact information entered by *registered users*." [col. 4, lines 42-43]. In other words, the users of the personal contact system have *registered* to become *members* of the system. Accordingly, the personal address book (database) of each individual is populated by data records of other *registered individuals*. Further, the receipt of the records of the *registered individuals* into each personal address book is not *automatic*. Rather, a first individual can request that the records of a *registered individual* be added to the first individual's address book, but the addition of the data is dependent upon the *registered individual* granting permission to the first individual.

As such, Robertson cannot be relied upon to teach the claimed limitation of "receiving records of individuals from an existing database *automatically and without registration* by the individuals." As discussed above, the individuals in Robertson have *registered* to be members of the personal contacts system. The *registered individuals* are knowingly providing their data records for potential use (based on permissions) by other members of the system. Further, the population of their records into other member's databases is *not automatic* but rather dependent upon permissions being granted."

During the interview, a considerable amount of time was spent discussing the limitation "receiving records from an existing database *automatically and without registration* by the individuals."

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With respect to the language "*without registration*" in Applicant's claims, at the close of the discussion Examiner Truong acknowledged that she saw the difference between Robertson and Applicant's claimed invention. Examiner Truong invited Applicant to respond to the Final Office Action so that she could reply after some additional consideration given to Applicant's claim language and argument.

Accordingly, Applicant has filed a Response to the Final Action in addition to the submission of this Interview Summary.

Respectfully submitted,



Tim W. Curington
Reg. No. 45,944

Tim W. Curington
17427 Rolling Creek
Houston, Texas 77090
(281) 440-1751 Phone

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